



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Results of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania Egg Production Down 4 Percent From Previous Year

HARRISBURG, PA, Feb 29, 2008 - - Annual egg production in Pennsylvania for the year ending November 30, 2007 was 6.39 billion eggs, down 4 percent from the 6.69 billion produced in 2006, according to the Pennsylvania field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). There was an average of 22.5 million layers in the state during the 12-month period, down 5 percent from the previous year. Average annual production per layer was 284 eggs, up from 282 eggs in 2006.

All chicken inventory (excluding commercial broilers) as of December 1, 2007 totaled 26.0 million, down 8 percent from the 28.3 million one year earlier. Pennsylvania ranked 5th in the nation in chicken inventory on December 1, 2007. There was a total of 21.9 million layers in Pennsylvania flocks as of December 1, 2007 and the state ranked 4th behind Iowa, Ohio, and Indiana, with 53.8, 26.6, and 24.4 million, respectively. There were 3.9 million pullets not of laying age in Pennsylvania flocks as of December 1, 2007. This was a 4 percent decrease from the previous year. There were also 104,000 other chickens in Pennsylvania flocks, down 9 percent from 2006. The average value per bird on hand December 1, 2007 was \$2.20. The total value of all flocks in Pennsylvania on December 1, 2007 was 57.2 million dollars, up 12 percent from the 50.9 million dollars in 2006.

Nationally, egg production for the year ending November 30, 2007 totaled a record high 90.6 billion eggs, down 1 percent from the previous year. Layer numbers averaged 344 million, down 1 percent from the year earlier. The average annual production per layer on hand in 2007 was 263 eggs, unchanged from 2006. The inventory of all chickens (excluding commercial broilers) in the United States totaled 455 million on December 1, 2007, up slightly from last year. The average value of chickens in the nation's flocks increased from \$2.61 on December 1, 2006, to \$2.95 per bird on December 1, 2007. The total value of the nation's flocks was estimated at 1.34 billion dollars, up 13 percent from one year ago.

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